

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 17-19 stand rejected under §102 on the basis of JP '611.

Claim 15 and 16 stand rejected under §103 on the basis of JP '611 and JP '270. Applicants traverse these rejections because the cited references do not perform a scrambling process on the basis of the "period" used in the present invention.

JP 2000-285611 discloses a technique for performing a scrambling process based on an exclusive OR operation using a pseudo random number. The present specification explains, at page 4, lines 4-6, in "Background Art" that "...this technique has a problem of high costs because it is essential that a bulk circuit that produces pseudorandom numbers is integrated into the optical information storing device."

The examiner appears to misinterpret that there might be a "period," i.e., a cyclic term of the pseudo random numbers, corresponding to "N" according to the present invention. However, the term of the M system described in JP '611 is $2^n - 1$ bits. On the contrary, the value of the predetermined cyclic data according to the present invention is repeated every N bytes. Thus, the "period" of the present invention cannot be the same as the "period" of the cited reference. For this reason, JP '611 does not disclose or suggest the present invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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